

Ranger Led Hikes and Campground Programs



Roving Ranger Programs are presented to you by a partnership team comprised of both National Park Service and Forest Service rangers and volunteers. The Roving Rangers provide free ranger programs that are a fun and entertaining way to learn about and experience the great outdoors with family, friends and your neighborly park ranger!
Come exploring with us today!



See Current Flyer Below

Ranger Walks & Talks Event Calendar

September 1-5, 2016

NPS/USFS Roving Rangers

Thursday, September 1st

• Guided Nature Walk in Beautiful Bonito Meadow, Thursday, September 1

10-11:30am. **Bonito Meadow Walk.** Come discover Bonito Meadow on an easy 2 mile, off-trail ramble. This hike is approximately 1.5 hours and takes place off-trail through uneven and brushy terrain. It's recommended to wear long pants and sturdy shoes. Head North on Hwy 89 and turn right onto the Sunset Crater Road. Drive 0.8 miles and meet at the gravel parking lot on the right side of road.

Friday, September 2nd

• Evening Program at Bonito Campground, Friday, September 2

7:30pm-8:15pm. **Grand Tours.** Come discover the Grand Circle! Join a ranger to hear about the National Park Service sites of northern Arizona and southern Utah. Undoubtedly you get some great ideas for your own adventure! Meet ranger Floy Healer at the campground amphitheater to learn more.

Saturday, September 3rd

• Guided Hike to Walnut Canyon Overlook via the AZT: Hidden Gem, Saturday, September 3.

8:30-11:30am. Join USFS interpretive rangers Steve and Lois Hirst for an informative 5-mile walk to Walnut Canyon overlook along the Arizona Horse Bypass Trail. Crosses a deep Walnut Canyon tributary to yield a variety of plants and wildflowers. Hear about Walnut Canyon's long and continuing significance for life around the Peaks. Meet at the Arizona Trailhead parking lot. Take I-40 east from Flagstaff to Walnut Canyon NM turnoff. Follow Walnut Canyon entrance road to FR 303 (before the monument entrance) and turn right. Parking area is about two miles down the dirt road. Difficulty: moderate.

• Guided Nature Walk at Dairy Springs Campground, Saturday, September 3

3-3:45 pm. **Seldom Seen.** Join a ranger for an easy 1/3 mile stroll along the Dairy Springs Loop Trail and uncover the mysterious things that are difficult to see and often overlooked. No dogs please. Meet at the Amphitheater.

• Evening Program at Bonito Campground, Saturday, September 3

7:30-8:15pm. **Hug-A-Tree and Survive!** This fun program teaches children from ages 7-12 how to survive in the woods and mountains should they become lost. Bob Pauls, who coordinates the Preventative Search and Rescue (SAR) program at the Humphreys Peak trail, and serves on the Coconino County SAR team, will be presenting. Meet at the campground amphitheater.

• Evening Program at Pine Grove Campground, Saturday 3

7:30-8:15pm. **Volcanoes of North America.** Come listen in to a tale about the fiery effects of volcanoes in northern Arizona and beyond. Pictures of awe-inspiring eruptions and the stories of one man's traveling adventures will inspire you to embark on your own bold wanderings! Program conducted by volunteer park ranger Eric Zeliff.

Sunday, September 4th

• Guided Nature Walk at Dairy Springs Campground, Sunday, September 4

3-3:45pm. A fun 45-minute (1/3 mile stroll) family **nature walk** along the Dairy Springs Loop Trail with Ranger Richard McGaugh. No dogs please. Meet at the Amphitheater.

• Evening Program at Bonito Campground, Sunday, September 4

7:30-8:15pm. **Volcanoes of North America.** Come listen in to a tale about the fiery effects of volcanoes in northern Arizona and beyond. Pictures of awe-inspiring eruptions and the stories of one man's traveling adventures will inspire you to embark on your own bold wanderings! Program conducted by volunteer park ranger Eric Zeliff.

Monday, September 5th

• Guided Nature Walk at the Lomaki Pueblo, Monday, September 5

10:00-11:00am. **Ancient Peoples.** Join volunteer Rangers Jeff and Donna Cooney, on an easy 1/2 mile round-trip walk to explore an ancient pueblo built along a small canyon. Meet at the trailhead for Lomaki Box Canyon Pueblo in Wupatki National Monument. Drive north on H-89 and take the Sunset Crater Loop Road (Forest Service Rd. 545). This road can be accessed near milepost 430 & milepost 444. Park entrance fees apply.

• Guided Bird Watching Walk at Walnut Canyon National Monument, Monday, September 5

10-11am. **Bird walk.** Explore how birds make a living where pine forest and rocky cliff habitats meet along the canyon rim with ranger Zack Zdinak. Meet at the Walnut Canyon visitor center for an easy 3/4 mile stroll along the canyon rim. Bring your binoculars if you have them. Park entrance fee applies.

Arizona Snowbowl

• Friday, September 2 through Monday, September 5th

10:00 am-4:00 pm. **Ranger Talks with the Roving Rangers atop the Scenic Chairlift Ride.** The grandest view in the Southwest at 11,500 feet elevation. Arizona Snowbowl Chairlift fees apply. For more information call 928-779-1951 or visit: www.arizonasnowbowl.com. Open every day.

These informative programs are presented through a partnership between the National Park Service (Flagstaff Area National Monuments) and the United States Forest Service (Flagstaff Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest).

Cancelled in the event of rain, lightning, fire, snow, or high winds.

Ranger Walks & Talks Event Calendar

September 8-12, 2016

NPS/USFS Roving Rangers

Thursday, September 8th

• Guided Hike at Walnut Canyon National Monument, Thursday, September 8

9am-1pm. **First Fort Guided Walk.** Join rangers on a trip to one of Walnut Canyon's backcountry archaeology sites. This is a great opportunity to see a new area that can't be seen from designated park trails. The walk is moderate to difficult, approximately 3.5 miles round trip. Terrain includes steep, loose rocky slopes. Limited space available. Reservations required; please call: 928-526-3367. *NPS entry fees apply.*

• Guided Nature Walk at Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument, Thursday, September 8

9-11am. **Volcanology Discoveries.** Join rangers Jeff, Donna, and Robert on a beautiful exploration of Sunset Crater Volcano's lava flow. This is a great opportunity to learn and experience new geologic wonders that can't be seen from designated park trails. The walk is moderate, and approximately 2 miles round trip. Terrain has some elevation change and substrate is deep cinders. Limited space available. Reservations required; please call: 928-526-0502. Park entrance fee applies.

Friday, September 9th

• Evening Program at Bonito Campground, Friday, September 9

7:30pm-8:15pm. **"HOO-HOO Goes There?"** We like to sleep at night but many of our local wildlife are more active between sunset and sunrise. And they can be noisy. Tonight we will explore the sounds of the forest. You will learn who makes those weird, spooky noises that you may hear around the campground and elsewhere on the Colorado Plateau. Join Ranger Zack Zdinak for an introduction to your nightly forest neighbors.

Saturday, September 10 at 9 am

Saturday, September 10th

• Arizona Trail Day Happenings, Saturday, September 10

9-10am. **Guided walk on McMillan Mesa.** Join Lois and Steve Hirst and Jack Welch for an easy hour-long stroll along the AZ Trail across McMillan Mesa to celebrate AZ Trail Day. Contrast the unspoiled municipal land with the developing private holdings on the mesa. Meet at the buffalo at the Buffalo Park entrance and finish at the Dale Shewalter memorial.

10am-2pm. **Arizona Trail Day events.** Meet at Buffalo Park. Events include:

⇒ Live music from Viola and the Brakemen.

⇒ Local Food by Sosoba.

⇒ Beer garden featuring local brews from Wanderlust Brewery and Arizona Trail Ale from THAT Brewery.

⇒ "Ask a Thru-Hiker", "Ask a Thru-biker", "Ask a Thru-rider" Talks.

⇒ Face Painting and Kids Coloring Contest.

⇒ Raffle with fantastic prizes!

⇒ Free maps, information, and much more!

(For further information visit: aztrail.org)

Monday, September 12th

• Guided Nature Walk at the Lomaki Pueblo, Monday, September 12

10:00-11:00am. **Ancient Peoples.** Join volunteer Rangers Jeff and Donna Cooney, on an easy 1/2 mile round-trip walk to explore an ancient pueblo built along a small canyon. Meet at the trailhead for Lomaki Box Canyon Pueblo in Wupatki National Monument. Drive north on H-89 and take the Sunset Crater Loop Road (Forest Service Rd. 545). This road can be accessed near milepost 430 & milepost 444. Park entrance fees apply.

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Event Directions and Details

Program Location	Directions	Description	What to Bring
Arizona Snowbowl Skyride Summit Ranger Talks	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lift cost \$19/person age 13-64, \$10/person age 6-12 & 65-up, and free age 5 and under. Ranger talks are always free. Visitors should be comfortable with heights. High elevation: 11,500 feet. Weather changes happen rapidly; be prepared! Great views & kid friendly. Open every day Memorial Day weekend through mid-October. Roving Ranger Talks are Every Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, Memorial Day through mid-October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing appropriate for weather. Sun protection. Water & snacks. Walking shoes. Camera.
Aspen Loop Trail	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The walk is easy, level walking, and is approximately 1 mile round trip. Great opportunity to see aspen trees and mixed conifers. Located north of Flagstaff. Drive north 7 miles on US 180, then seven up Snowbowl Road. Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing appropriate for weather. Sun protection. Water & snacks. Walking shoes. Camera.
Bismark Lake/Little Springs Guided Walk	Go N. 22 miles on Hwy 180. Turn right onto the second FR 151 intersection just beyond MP 235. Go 1.6 mi to fork and continue on FR 151 (right fork) another 0.8 mi to small meadow and park at junction with FR 418B.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hike to the AZ Trail into mountain meadows with spectacular views of the San Fran Peaks. Then loop down to Little Spring, where C. Hart Merriam set up camp for his study of climate zones. Difficulty: moderate ascent to 8800 ft.' Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing appropriate for weather. Sun protection. Water. Snacks/lunch Trekking poles. Hiking shoes.
Bonito Campground Programs	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program conducted by a Roving Rangers usually every Friday Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. See above flyer for the topic of discussion. 45 minutes in length. Seating provided. Wheelchair accessible. Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing appropriate for cooler evening temperatures . Flashlight.

Event Directions and Details

Program Location	Directions	Description	What to Bring
Bonito Meadow Guided Walks	Headed North on H-89 make a right-hand turn on Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument access road. Drive 0.8-miles off Hwy 89 and meet at gravel parking lot, on the right side of road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come discover the beauty of the Bonito Meadow. • Hike is an easy 2.2-mile, off-trail ramble. • Off-trail, uneven, brushy terrain. • 360° vistas! • Approximately 1.5 hours. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended to wear long pants and sturdy shoes. • Water. • Snacks. • Trekking poles. • Camera.
Dairy Springs Guided Walks & Programs	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dairy Springs Loop is approximately 1/3 of a mile round trip. • 45 minutes in length. • This natural history walk takes place through a beautiful Ponderosa Pine forest and riparian habitat of the Dairy Springs. • Easy, kid friendly walk. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.
Lower O'Leary Volcano Guided Walk	Take H-89 north out of Flagstaff; turn right on Sunset Crater Rd. (FS Rd. 545). Drive 1.8 miles, turn left for the O'Leary Group Campground and park at the trailhead just past the turn for the O'Leary campsite.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lower section of the O'Leary Volcano hike is a beautiful walk up the lower elevations of O'Leary Peak. • The walk is easy, level walking, and is approximately 2 miles round trip. • Great opportunity to learn and experience the geologic wonders, plants, and birds of the area • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.
Mormon Lake Riding the Rails Guided Walk.	Go 20 miles south on Lake Mary Road and turn right on FR 90 (Mormon Lake Road). Go 2 miles and Forest Service Road 132.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join rangers, on the 1887 Arizona Mineral Belt RR grade from its summit to Mormon Lake. • Lots of railroad history and stories. • See the Mormon Lake loop road in a new way. • Difficulty: moderate. • Approximately 3 hours. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Snacks • Trekking poles. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.
Pine Grove Campground Programs	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program conducted by a Roving Ranger usually every Saturday Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. • See above flyer for the topic of discussion. • 45 minutes in length. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for cooler evening temperatures. • Flashlight.

Event Directions and Details

Program Location	Directions	Description	What to Bring
Rio de Flag/Hidden Hollow Guided Walk.	Drive North on H-180 from Flagstaff. Drive approx. 1/2-mile northwest of the Peak View Market & Shell station in Cheshire. Meet at the Hidden Hollow Rd turnoff from Hwy 180.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An easy, 2-mile walk in sun & shade along the Rio de Flag and on the 1857 Beale Wagon Road. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument Programs & Guided Walks	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience the Sunset Crater Volcano. • Kid friendly. • Park entrance fees apply. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera. • Food/Snacks
Walker Lake Guided Walk	Meet at the intersection of FR 151 and Hwy 180, just past MP 235.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walker Lake Hike: Is a great hike to the rim of a volcano with a lake in its crater. • Spectacular views of the Peaks, the Painted Desert, and the distant Grand Canyon. • Difficulty: moderate. • No dogs, please. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended to wear long pants and sturdy shoes. • Water. • Snacks. • Trekking poles. • Camera.
Walnut Canyon Guided Walks & Programs	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come discover the beauty of Walnut Canyon National Monument. • Kid friendly. • Park entrance fees apply. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.
Wupatki National Monument Programs and Guided Walks	Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience the pueblo structures first hand. • Kid friendly. • Park entrance fees apply. • Open to all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing appropriate for weather. • Sun protection. • Water. • Hiking shoes. • Camera.

Roving Rangers History

The Roving Rangers is a partnership team comprised of both rangers and volunteers from the National Park Service and the Forest Service. It's the mission of this group to provide free ranger programs in and around the Flagstaff area, that provide visitors with fun learning experiences in the out of doors. It is the intent of the Roving Rangers to bring understanding and inspiration to all ages, provoking the citizens of the world to cherish our natural world and act to preserve natural and cultural resources. The Roving Rangers Partnership was created in 1991 by John Nelson, United States Forest Service (USFS) employee, and Kim Watson, National Park Service (NPS) employee. It is now in its 24th season and has delivered a multitude of guided walks and talks for visitors and residents of the Flagstaff area.

Where we work:

During the summer, from Memorial Day Weekend through early September, the Roving Rangers conduct ranger-led programs each weekend at three local campgrounds. The partnership also provides an interpretive ranger at the top of the Arizona Snowbowl Scenic Skyride to answer questions and describe the natural history and panoramic views amid the spectacular San Francisco Peaks. Some of the most loved ranger-led programs include beautiful, exciting guided walks in Flagstaff's three local national monuments and throughout the hidden trails of the Coconino National Forest.

The partnership:

The Partnership is an example of a working public/private relationship. The two private partners are Arizona Snowbowl and Recreation Resource Management (RRM), and the two public partners being the National Park Service and the Forest Service. RRM is contracted by the USFS to run the local Forest Service campgrounds and also to provide quality interpretation at three campgrounds with amphitheaters --- Dairy Springs Campground (west side of Mormon Lake), Pine Grove Campground (about a mile past Upper Lake Mary), and Bonito Campground (adjacent to the entrance of Sunset Crater Volcano NM). The creation of the partnership helps RRM fulfill their program requirements and enables the NPS and USFS to provide visitors with quality experiences.